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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to honor Soka Gakkai International President Daisaku Ikeda for his continuous efforts in promoting nonviolence, culture, and education in the United States and throughout the world; and

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WHEREAS, Soka Gakkai International is a Buddhist association with more than 13 million members in 192 countries worldwide; the organization promotes the growth of peace, culture, and education with its many activities; the SGI's location at 1455 South Wabash in Chicago serves as a hub of the organization's Central Territory, which encompasses 20 states throughout the Midwest; and

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WHEREAS, SGI President Daisaku Ikeda has devoted his life to the organization and its peaceful causes; under his leadership, SGI has pursued many projects that have fostered international cooperation and recognition, such as the Soka School systems in the United States and Japan, which were developed for the encouragement of humanistic students and faculty, the opening of the Fuji Museum in Japan and the Victor Hugo Museum in France, and the Min-On Association, an organization which allows artists and musicians to spread peace through their respective mediums; and

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1 WHEREAS, Daisaku Ikeda has engaged in dialogue with many
2 world figures and citizen activists, promoting cooperation in
3 world affairs; among them, he has spoken with Arnold Toynbee,
4 Mikhail Gorbachev, Linus Pauling, Rosa Parks, Chou En Lai,
5 along with numerous other Nobel Laureates and global leaders;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Daisaku Ikeda has long espoused the concept of
8 inner reformation, or transforming long-held erroneous values
9 and embracing the ideal that all life is sacred, which is SGI's
10 ultimate goal; he has been a tireless advocate of individual
11 empowerment, which will allow people to make concerted change
12 in the world, instead of thriving on accusation and blame; he
13 has also encouraged acceptance and joy for humankind's many
14 differences and the use of dialogue to find peaceful
15 resolutions to the world's many conflicts and crises; and

16 WHEREAS, Daisaku Ikeda's dedication to the causes of peace
17 and human understanding make him a role model of the highest
18 caliber to those who seek a peaceful and cooperative global
19 community; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
22 honor Soka Gakkai International President Daisaku Ikeda for his

1 continuous efforts to promote nonviolence, cultural
2 understanding, and education in the United States and the world
3 at large and show our appreciation for his hard work and
4 dedication; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to Daisaku Ikeda as a symbol of our esteem and
7 respect.